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BOOK REVIEWS

The Evolution of the Educational Ideal. By MABEL IRENE EMERSON.
Boston: Houghton, Mifflin Co., 1914. Pp. x+185. \$1.00 net,
postpaid.

In 1905 Paul Monroe published his epoch-making *Textbook in the History of Education* which contained almost 800 pages. In the opening sentence of his preface he said: "This volume, while not pretending to be an exhaustive history of the subject, aims to give more than a superficial outline containing a summary of trite generalizations."

Emerson's *Evolution of the Educational Ideal* is a reversion to the type of textbooks in the history of education published before Monroe's and characterized in the last phrases of the sentence quoted from his preface. Emerson's book is perhaps the most attenuated summary of a long period that we have. It covers the whole time from ancient oriental education to the present in 185 pages. Chinese education is treated in four pages; education in India in three; Persian education in three; education among the Hebrews in three; Egyptian education in five; Greek education in eleven; Roman education in seven; and so on. In the treatment of individuals in the modern period we find one-half page devoted to Rabelais; one page to Montaigne; four pages to Bacon and Comenius; four pages to Locke; and twenty-one pages to the movement represented by Rousseau, Pestalozzi, and Froebel. Twenty pages are devoted to education and the state, and twenty-three pages to the American common school.

The book presents a striking contrast to the admirable series of "River-side Educational Monographs" published by the same firm, in each of which we find an intensive and thorough treatment of one or a few topics. In general, progress in textbook construction has been in the direction of such intensive studies and away from the encyclopedic and superficial discussion of a wide range of topics.

S. C. P.

Health and the School. By FRANCES WILLISTON BURKS and JESSE D. BURKS. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Pp. xviii+393. \$1.50.

The complaint is not infrequently heard that not enough positive data concerning conditions of health are extant and available to warrant present-day dogmatizing on standards of public hygiene, safety, and efficiency. On the other hand, it is admitted by all that judicious publicity of such facts as are known is the necessary first step toward human conservation and the most vital stimulus for further care and study of deterrent and vicious influences.